



NEWS RELEASE

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Today's Date: October 21, 2005
District: District 7, Los Angeles and Ventura Counties
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ROSEMEAD BOULEVARD (STATE ROUTE 19) BRIDGE -- ROADWAY TO RE-OPEN TODAY (10/21)

Pico Rivera – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will open all lanes of northbound and southbound Rosemead Boulevard (19) near the Whittier Narrows Dam today.

Floodwater has receded. Caltrans personnel observed the bridge footings (base) -- and after an assessment and evaluation have deemed the roadway safe to re-open to the motoring public.

Heavy rainstorms necessitated the release earlier this week of water from the Whittier Narrows Dam, causing excess water to accumulate at the base of the Rosemead Boulevard bridge. The bridge had been undergoing repairs from the previous storms earlier this year. A closure of Rosemead Blvd. between San Gabriel Boulevard and Gallitin Street was necessary to ensure the safety of the motoring public.

Repair work will resume after the required environmental permits are secured from the California Department of Fish and Game, the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Estimated completion of the repair work is approximately three months, weather-permitting. Intermittent lane closures may be required during repairs. If additional heavy rainstorms occur, full roadway closures may be required.

Caltrans thanks residents and commuters for the patience and understanding during this emergency closure.

For additional information, please contact the Caltrans Public Affairs office at (213) 897-3630 or (213) 897-3656. Caltrans reminds motorists to PLEASE, ***SLOW FOR THE CONE ZONE.***
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